



South Miami Police Department



Annual Report

2011

Chief Orlando Martínez de Castro

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR

PHILIP K. STODDARD

VICE MAYOR

VALERIE NEWMAN

GROUP I

COMMISSIONER

BRIAN D. BEASLEY

COMMISSIONER

VELMA PALMER

COMMISSIONER

WALTER A. HARRIS

GROUP II

GROUP III

GROUP IV

CHARTED OFFICIALS

CITY CLERK

Maria M. Menendez

CITY MANAGER

Hector Mirabile, PhD

CITY ATTORNEY

Thomas Pepe, Esq.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Alfredo Riverol, CPA Cr.FA

CHIEF OF POLICE

Orlando Martinez De Castro

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

Kelly Barket

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

Maria Stout-Tate

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Latasha Nickle, Esq.

BUILDING DIRECTOR

Victor Citarella

PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR

Christopher Brimo

CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGER

Keith Ng

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ANNUAL REPORT PRODUCED
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:

Chief Orlando Martinez de Castro

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Mission Statement

To deliver professional police services in partnership with the people we serve, in order to provide a safe and secure environment for all.

Vision Statement

To be a world class law enforcement agency, one that exhibits traits for other agencies to emulate, one that is constantly endeavoring to improve and stay on the cutting edge of the policing profession; an agency that impresses its citizens the first and every time, always striving to improve upon its successes and one that empowers and encourages its employees to serve the public and protect life and property with dignity, honor and pride.

Chief's Message

The South Miami Police Department's Annual Report for 2011 is presented in the following pages and it gives me personal satisfaction to share our major accomplishments and current projects with you and others. I just completed a full year on my second tour as the Chief of Police for this agency and I would like to take this opportunity thank each and every member of the police department, sworn and civilian, for all of their dedication and hard work throughout the year.

According to the Police Department's annual crime comparison report, the total offenses, which include total violent and non-violent crimes in South Miami, showed a 2% increase in crimes in year 2011 compared to year 2010. Several crime sweep operations were planned and executed along with quarterly DUI checkpoints and saturation details in a proactive effort to prevent any significant increase in crimes.

During 2011, the Police Department also began working towards State Accreditation, which should be realized in December 2012. Researchers in the area of accreditation know that police accreditation provides a quality work environment, more efficient use of limited resources, deters law suits and increases confidence in the agency's ability to provide quality service. The South Miami Police Department was established in 1927 and has never been accredited.

The Police Department also decided to purchase new Communications software to update and improve the current software system which was not as user friendly and efficient for the storage and retrieval of information in crime analysis. Full implementation of the Open Software Solutions, Inc. (OSSl) Project, which entails the installation of new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) application, Records Management System (RMS) software, Mobile Field Reporting (MFR) software and other smaller modules such as Asset Management, Internal Affairs and Quartermaster applications were purchased and installed in 2011. The benefits of this project include the sharing of criminal information across jurisdictional boundaries and application integration that leads to greater accuracy and efficiency in data entry, searching, reporting, and information retrieval. Initial pricing of this project was quoted at 1.1 million dollars. After extensive negotiations between SunGard/OSSl, the Chief and IDC, final expense resulted in an 80% discount, using federal forfeiture dollars (350k). Training is currently in progress, to go-live by July 2012.

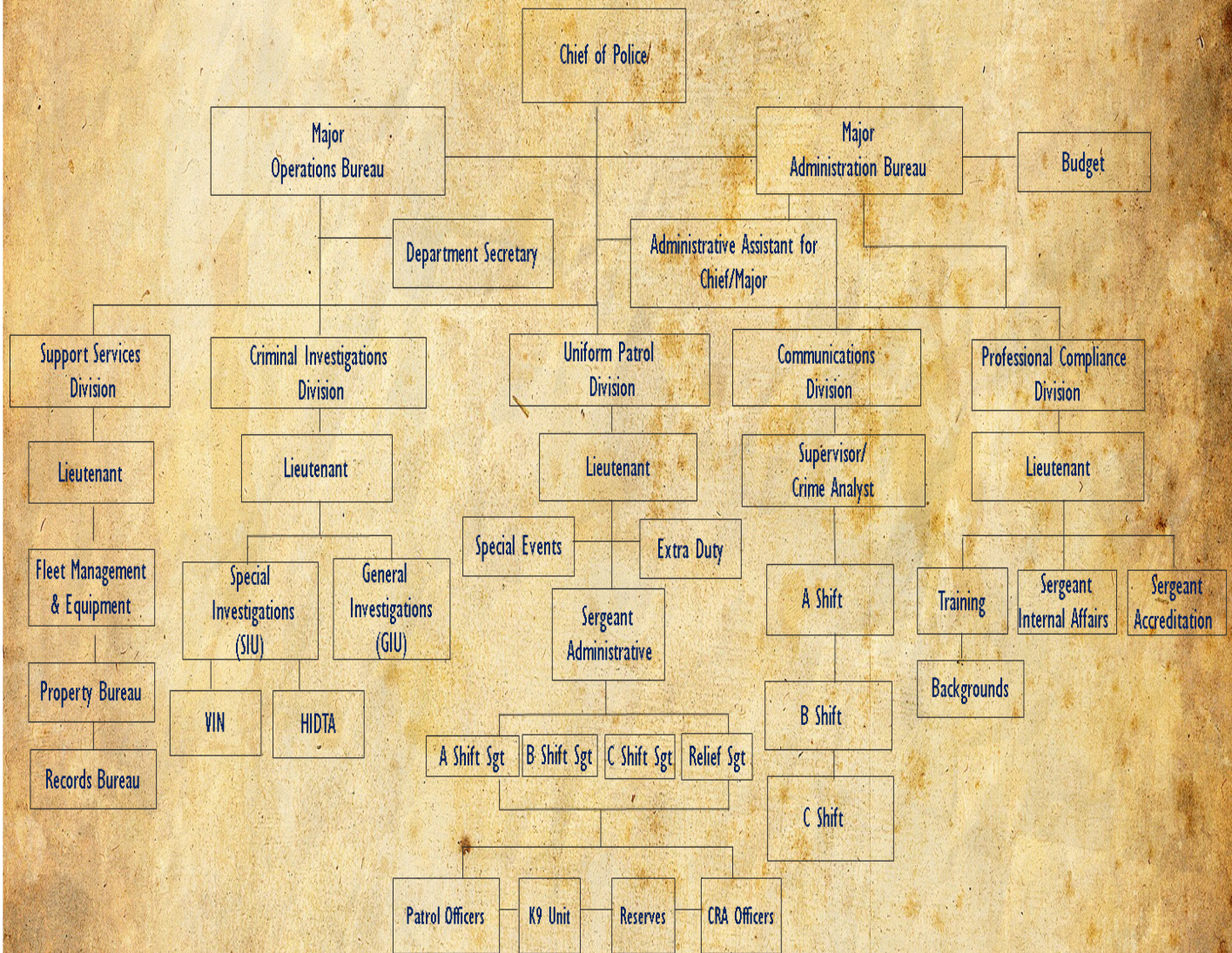
Additionally, we purchased an advanced key and asset tracking system known as KeyTrak. This system provides a secure and organized way to house keys for our building, vehicles and City Hall. The cost of this system was \$22,000 and was also funded by federal forfeiture dollars.

The Sergeants/Officers contract between the Union and the City had been at impasse for over a year. In 2011, the PBA contract was negotiated in good faith and negotiations between the Union and the City were very efficient and professional. The 3-year contract was signed in September 2011, extending the contract to September 2013, which had a 2% retroactive bonus for the 2009/2010 year without a contract. New benefits included specialized unit pay, shift differential, increased holiday pay, increase in compensatory time accrual, increased clothing allowance and hazardous duty pay, an extra floating holiday and other contract benefits having to do with personnel records, seniority, take home vehicles and safety equipment. The Senior Staff of the Police Department, along with City Staff were able to work hard and come to an agreement with the PBA in order to make these benefits available to the rank and file; **a win, win for all.**



City Staff and PBA finalize contract negotiations for 2010-2013

Organizational Chart



Revised March 2012



Command Staff



MAJOR ANA BAIXAULI
ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU



CHIEF
ORLANDO MARTINEZ de CASTRO



MAJOR RENE LANDA
OPERATIONS BUREAU



LIEUTENANT L. MORTON
PROFESSIONAL COMPLIANCE



LIEUTENANT R. RODRIGUEZ
SUPPORT SERVICES



LIEUTENANT L. CORBIN
UNIFORM PATROL



LIEUTENANT J. BARZOLA
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



SERGEANT J. GRIFFIN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS



SERGEANT M. WEISSBERG
ACCREDITATION



SERGEANT J. AGUIAR
ADMINISTRATIVE



LISA CORBIN
COMM. SUPERVISOR & CRIME ANALYST

Budget

ACCOUNT	APPROVED 2011-2012	BUDGET 2010-2011
SALARIES - REGULAR	3,390,249	3,467,154
SALARIES - PART TIME	0	18,453
OVERTIME	150,000	150,000
SPECIAL PAY-ED.	26,260	23,670
HAZARD PAY	61,335	52,200
FICA	277,530	283,928
PENSION CITY CONTRIBUTION	622,292	612,394
ICMA CONTRIBUTION	32,754	0
GROUP HEALTH INS	323,057	314,846
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	118,087	126,182
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES	5,001,564	5,048,827
ANNUAL PHYSICALS	14,750	14,750
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	63,290	15,270
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES-PARKING	239,750	0
RED LIGHT CAMERA AGREEMENT	0	570,000
CONTRACTUAL SCHOOL CROSSING	70,000	70,000
CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS	4,000	5,000
TRAVEL & CONFERENCE	8,948	0
TRAINING/EDUCATION	7,425	0
POSTAGE	1,700	1,357
COMMUNICATION	16,240	10,800
LEASE PURCHASE PD 800 MHZ	45,000	40,000
LEASE PURCHASE - POLICE VEHICLES	11,400	10,200
LIABILITY INSURANCE - AUTO	26,000	26,000
POLICE ACC. DTH & DIS INSURANCE	2,000	2,000
MAINT/REPAIR - EQUIP	18,600	10,800
MAINT/REPAIR - COMM.	95,200	74,769
PRINTING - INFRASTRUCTURE	10,005	10,005
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS	5,000	2,500
EMPLOYEE TESTING	5,391	7,755
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	21,960	0
SUPPLIES	82,978	17,655
SUPPLIES - PARKING	49,100	0
UNIFORMS	62,500	74,200
FUEL	217,121	117,393
MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS	6,730	1,853
PRISONER DETENTION	100	100
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,096,888	1,060,407
EQUIP. UNDER \$500 IN VALUE	0	0
EQUIPMENT-OFFICE	0	0
EQUIPMENT - OPERATING	0	0
VEHICLES	0	193,668
TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY- LEASE	0	193,668
DEBT SERVICE - PRINCIPAL	176,331	124,306
DEBT SERVICE - INTEREST	18,133	14,855
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	194,464	139,161
TOTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT	6,292,916	6,442,063

Annual Comparison

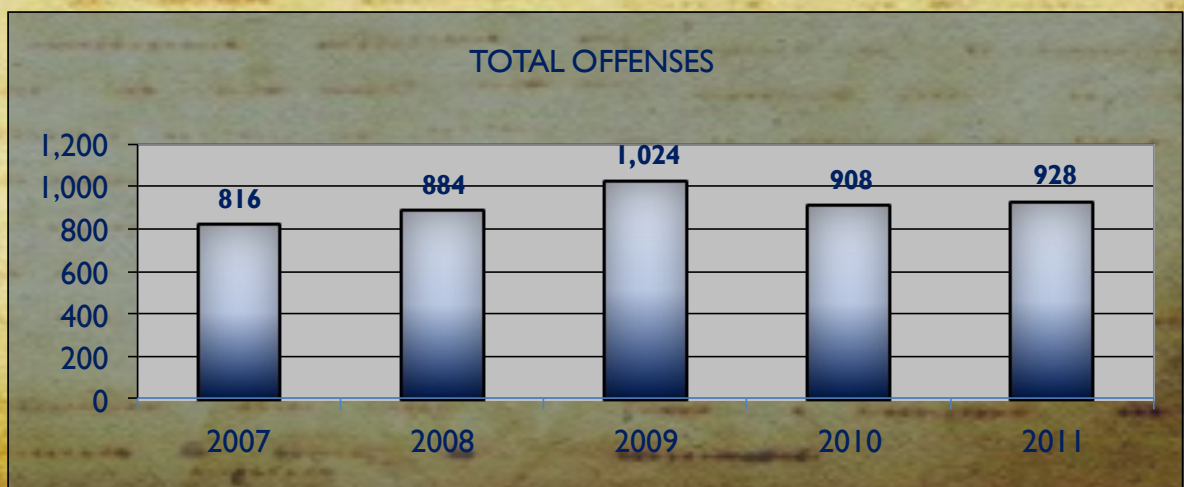
VIOLENT CLASS I CRIMES	2011	%	2010	2009
Homicide	0	*	3	4
Manslaughter	0	n/c	0	0
Rape Committed	6	200%	2	2
Rape Attempted	0	n/c	0	0
Sodomy	0	*	1	1
Fondling	0	*	1	1
Robbery	33	n/c	33	42
<i>Highway</i>	13	44%	9	16
<i>Comm. Other</i>	8	33%	6	11
<i>Gas/Svc. Station</i>	0	n/c	0	0
<i>Convenience</i>	0	n/c	0	2
<i>Residence</i>	3	200%	1	7
<i>Bank</i>	1	-75%	4	0
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	8	-38%	13	6
Agg Assault	51	6%	48	54
Agg Stalking	1	*	0	0
Simple Assault (not a class I crime)	103	8%	95	114
TOTAL VIOLENT:	91	3%	88	104
NON-VIOLENT CLASS I CRIMES				
Burglary Res	107	5%	102	88
Burglary Non Res	18	-25%	24	52
Grand Theft Auto	23	-12%	26	43
Larceny	689	3%	668	737
<i>Pick Pocket</i>	0	*	2	3
<i>Purse Snatch</i>	0	*	1	0
<i>Shoplifting</i>	87	-22%	111	143
<i>From Motor Veh</i>	267	13%	236	256
<i>Motor Veh Parts</i>	76	-3%	78	79
<i>Bicycles</i>	56	75%	32	35
<i>From Bldg</i>	26	-4%	27	32
<i>From Coin Opr.Dev.</i>	1	n/c	1	0
<i>All Other</i>	176	-2%	180	189
TOTAL NON-VIOLENT:	873	2%	820	920
TOTAL OFFENSES:	928	2%	908	1024

n/c - no change & * - not calculable

Uniform Crime Reports

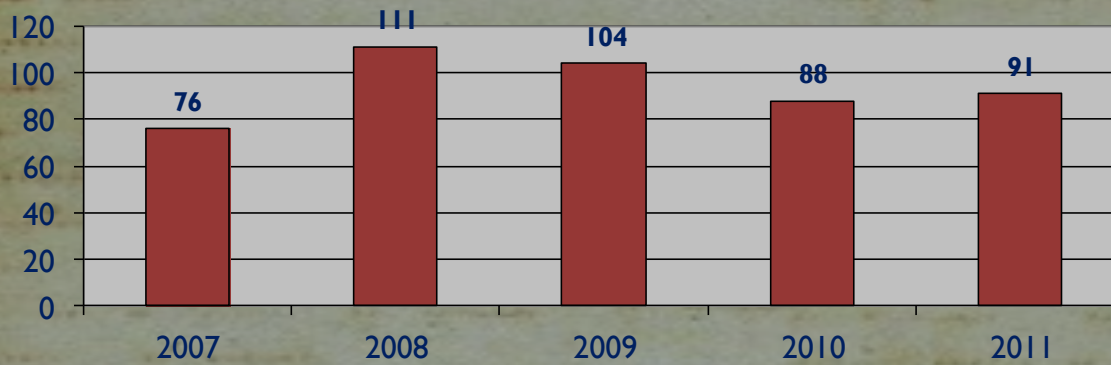
The South Miami Police Department was able to prevent any significant increases in crime in 2011 through its many well executed anti-crime operations throughout the year. These Operations are explained in more detail in the following pages. Total Offenses, which include violent crimes and non-violent crimes increased by a mere 2%. Although it does not sound like a success story, there were no significant spikes in any of the Part I Crimes as shown in the graph below. The statistics do show a notable decline between 2009 and 2011.

With the acquisition of state-of-the-art crime analysis software this past year, technology will now become a more substantial partner in fighting crime in 2012. Through the use of the new OSSI mapping software, better crime trends will be identified and police resources will be deployed more efficiently. Surveillances will have better information for its task force details. We hope that 2012 proves to be a very productive crime fighting year as a result.

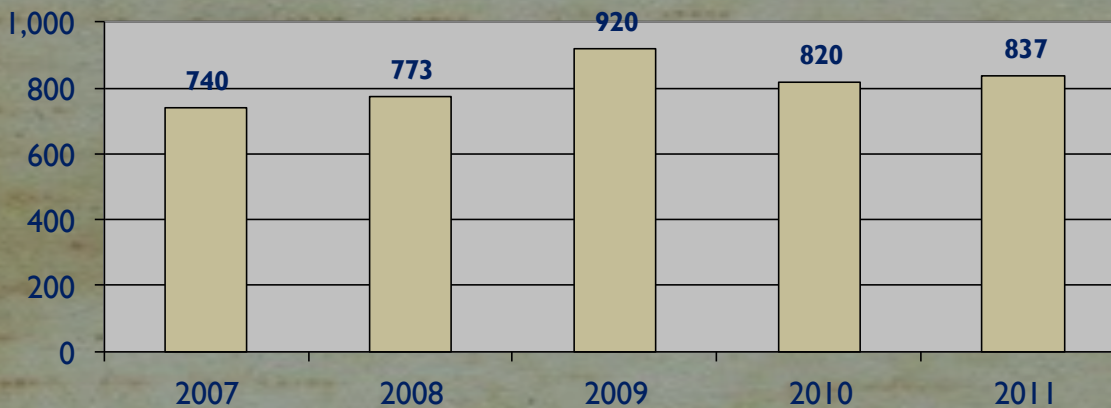


Uniform Crime Reports

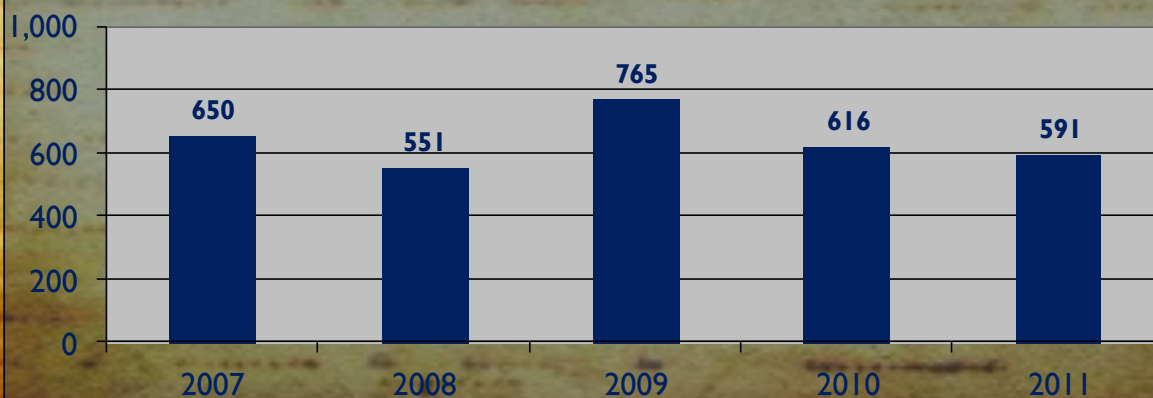
VIOLENT CRIMES



NON-VIOLENT CRIMES



ARRESTS



Uniform Patrol

The Uniform Patrol Division is the largest and most visible representation of the police department. They are the foundation of this agency and are a vital part of public safety. The Patrol Division is generally the first assignment for new hires, a stepping stone in molding these officers into what this agency's core values represent; Excellence, Integrity and Inclusion.

The Patrol Division is supplemented with several specialized units to effectively address areas of concern. These specialized units are; K-9, Traffic/Motorcycle, Community Patrol, Crisis Intervention, Field Training, Enhanced DUI Enforcement and Honor Guard. This October, three officers were certified in Bike Patrol, an intensive forty hour course. Bike Patrol was the latest unit added to our crime prevention tactics. This unit was used to enhance the downtown holiday patrol and continues to be used in assisting patrol when conducting residential saturations.

The following were statistical performances during 2011:

- 135 Felony Arrests
- 298 Misdemeanor Arrests
- 141 Traffic Arrests
- 82 Warrants Served
- 12,349 Traffic Citations Issued
- 905 Traffic Promise to Appear Citations
- 1,103 Parking Citations



L to R: Ofc. L. Hernandez, Ofc. M. Taylor, Sr. Trainer Ofc. A. Alvarez & Ofc. C. Cosio during bike patrol training course



Ofc. Vijil effecting an arrest



Honor-Guard stands at attention

Special Operations

During the year the Uniform Patrol Division hosted a total of 4 Sobriety Checkpoints including Operation "Santa's DUI Checkpoint", which was conducted on December 9th 2011. This checkpoint was the largest of its kind in the history of the City. The operation was staged at 63Av & South Dixie Hwy and simultaneously operated on both the North and Southbound lanes. It involved 14 outside agencies and over 130 officers were present. The operation was a great success as it resulted in a total of 33 arrests, 17 of which were for DUI.



Vehicles travelling through checkpoint



Santa's DUI Checkpoint Operations Diagram



Santa's DUI Checkpoint in South Miami assisted by multiple agencies

Criminal Investigations

The Criminal Investigations Division is charged with conducting preliminary, follow-up and special investigations as defined in Department General Order 19.1. This Division is divided into two separate functions; the General Investigations Unit (GIU) and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU).

The main responsibility of the General Investigations Unit is to follow-up on criminal reports, not resolved by the Uniform Patrol Division and attempt to bring a successful resolution to cases with solvable leads.

The following were statistical performances during 2011:

- 390 assigned cases to investigate. Of those cases, 210 were resolved, cleared, unfounded and/or closed by arrest. Of the 210 closures, 48 subjects were charged and arrested. As a result, G.I.U. detectives achieved a 51% clearance rate overall
- 74 crime scenes processed, some of which are pending results from the Miami-Dade Police Department's crime lab
- 1,361 reports were written
- Recovered \$112,759 in stolen property

Month	Total Assigned	Total Cleared	Clearance Rate
January	31	21	68%
February	38	23	61%
March	31	21	68%
April	20	13	65%
May	16	5	31%
June	29	17	62%
July	24	13	54%
August	25	21	84%
September	30	23	76%
October	57	26	46%
November	58	18	37%
December	31	9	32%
Total :	390	210	51%



Det. Vargas reviews his case notes prior to meeting with a victim



Lt. Barzola and Det. Lopez discuss an annual evaluation



Det. King places an arrestee in the holding cell

Special Investigations

The main responsibility of the Special Investigations Unit is obtaining and maintaining intelligence information primarily on narcotics related activity and other criminal acts.

The following were statistical performances during 2011:

- 205 subjects arrested for illegal narcotics violations
- 381 investigatory surveillances completed
- 104 reports were written
- Assisted other police agencies thirty-six times
- Seized and/or recovered \$12,810,786.00 worth of illegal narcotics



Cash & weapons impounded during narcotics bust

Highlights:

S.I.U. Detectives completed Operation Spring Cleaning and Operation Deep Fried Turkey, which resulted in the investigation of 29 subjects wanted for sales of illegal narcotics within 1000' of a school/church/H.U.D. property. A total of 24 subjects were arrested with five subjects still being sought.

S.I.U. Detectives completed a month long operation into a residence which was selling narcotics 20' from the front of a school. A search warrant was obtained and five subjects were arrested and numerous narcotics and firearms were recovered.

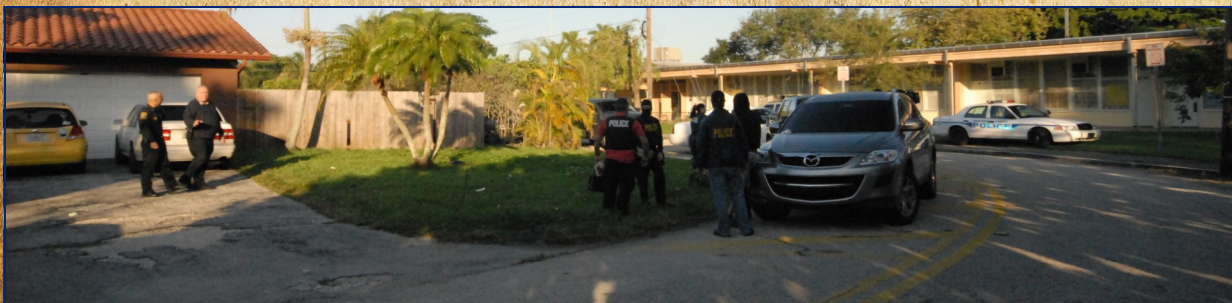
G.I.U. and S.I.U. personnel successfully completed numerous burglary and anti-crime initiatives which resulted in several apprehensions of felony subjects.



Grow House



Marijuana, illegal Prescription drugs, steroids, weapons & cash impounded



Narcotics detectives complete a month long operation occurring twenty feet from Ludlam Elementary School

Communications

The Communications Division is the hub of the department, staffed 24/7 year round. Communication Officers are usually the first contact on calls for service. They function as dispatchers, call takers, teletype operators, court liaison, record clerks and are sometimes called upon to participate in field events such as: DUI checkpoints and warrant details.

During 2011, we received 11,609 calls for service. These calls are generated in the following ways; 911 calls via the Miami Dade Police Department, non-emergency calls, inter-agency radio communications and officer self-initiated or discovered activity. Our calls for service are primarily dispatched through the Miami-Dade Police Department's Computer Aided Terminal (CAD). We also use a secondary CAD terminal that allows us to dispatch directly to units on patrol via officers Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's). This year we were able to purchase a new system which will allow for faster crime analysis studies with the use of map layer software. It will also enable us to configure modules that meet our specific needs. The SunGard/QSSI software will replace our current Records Management System, in-house CAD, MDT, Training, Property & Evidence and Case Management software. In the future, we are also looking at expanding into their P2P software which means Police to Public. An internet based application that will allow the public to directly access certain police reports and programs.

Dispatch also acquired updated security system cameras in color, two large screen monitors; the first to be able to view 32 camera feeds covering the City Hall and Police premises; the second to view cable television for up-to-date information on happenings via local and national news especially during natural disasters, heated and controversial trials and live police activity coverage in areas near and around our City. In addition, we are able to view our local City government channel.

The City also initiated the Civilian Employee of the Month program and this year four out of the seven personnel within the division were chosen for their distinguished service during the months of: February/Communications Supervisor Lisa Corbin, March/Communications Officer Brett Melograno, June/Communications Officer Linda Redd and November/Communications Officer Dawnn Kinsey.

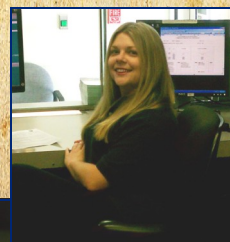
Lisa Corbin poses with Senior Staff after receiving her award



Karen Lopez poses for a picture



Christine Skalski begins her shift



Dawnn Kinsey receives her award from the HR Director



Brett Melograno presented with his Employee of the Month award



Joellen Balas poses during a DUI Checkpoint



HR Director Latasha Nickle presents Linda Redd with her recognition award

Support Services

The Services Division is comprised of four Units; The Records Management Unit, The Property and Evidence Unit, The Quartermaster Unit and The Vehicle Fleet Management Unit.

The Records Management Unit maintains all police offense / incident and crash reports. This unit is tasked with the storage of all departmental documents and the disposal of departmental records in accordance with the State of Florida's retention laws.

The Property and Evidence Unit is responsible for the storage and safekeeping of all abandoned, lost and recovered property that are found by and/or are reported to the police department. Also impounded and stored are items such as weapons and narcotics as well as other evidentiary items such as latent finger prints and D.N.A. specimens. All evidentiary items are properly handled and documented to assist in the successful prosecution of persons arrested for crimes committed by them. The following is the 2011 statistical performance of the Property and Evidence Unit:

- 451 items were impounded
- 240 items were destroyed
- 41 items were returned to their owners
- 17 items were turned over to the City



Lt. Rodriguez impounds prescription drugs

The Quartermaster Unit is responsible for assigning all police department personnel their duty equipment. Police necessities change and that change is sometimes dictated by crime trends, modern policing and/or equipment improvements. This unit is also responsible for researching specific needs, changes, pricing, etc. and then making informed recommendations to the Chief of Police for his approval. All duty equipment is properly documented, accounted for and assigned as needed.

The Vehicle Fleet Management Unit is responsible for maintaining a capable and professional fleet of police vehicles. From police administrators to uniformed police officers and from general investigators to undercover operatives, this unit keeps inventories of all of the officer assigned vehicles as well as those vehicles assigned to all spare fleets. Both newly acquired and tenured vehicles are outfitted with state of the art emergency equipment and are maintained at a condition suitable for the rigors of modern police work. This year the police department added fourteen vehicles to its fleet.



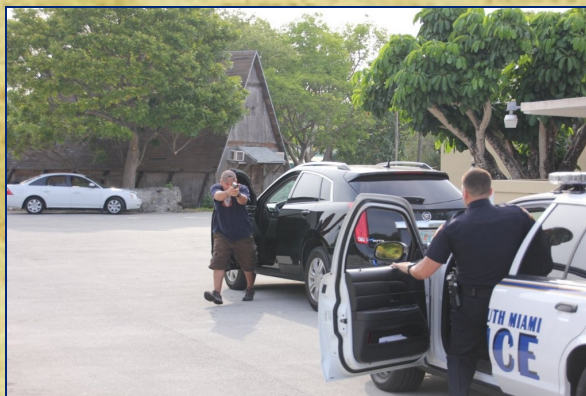
Vehicle and motor fleet line up during a special operation

Professional Compliance

The Professional Compliance Division is responsible for Internal Affairs, Training, Recruitment, Background Investigations and Accreditation.

This division is responsible for ensuring that departmental personnel receive state mandated training as well as advanced training appropriate for their position. A commitment to ensuring that police employees are among the most highly trained resulted in a total of 3036 hours of training during the year. Some of the advanced training topics include Crime Scene, Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. Traffic related courses include Laser and Radar Speed Measurement, D.U.I Detection and Instruction on conducting roadside sobriety checkpoints.

During 2011, twenty-nine applicants were processed for various positions within the Police Department. The background process consists of interviews, criminal history, fingerprints, psychological testing, polygraph and a complete medical exam, along with a complete review of the applicants personal and professional past. The Reserve Officer Program has been reinstated and six applicants were hired for these positions.



Training scenario "Officer under attack during traffic stop"



Senior Training Officer demonstrates how to use vehicle as cover while being ambushed



Sgt. James qualifies at the range with an M16



Training scenario "Conducting a traffic stop"

Accreditation



Accreditation increases the law enforcement agency's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services to the community it serves. Accreditation enhances community understanding of the law enforcement agency and its role in the community as well as its goals and objectives. Citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency is increased.

Accreditation, in conjunction with the philosophy of community policing, commits the agency to a broad range of programs (such as crime prevention) that directly benefit the public. Accreditation creates a forum in which police and citizens work together to control and prevent crime. This partnership will help citizens to understand the challenges that confront law enforcement. Law enforcement will, in turn, receive clear direction from the community about its expectations. Thus, a common set of goals and objectives will be arrived at and implemented.

Accreditation increases cooperation and coordination with other law enforcement agencies and other branches of the criminal justice system. The accreditation process requires an in-depth review of every aspect of the agency's organization, management, operations and administration to include:

- establishment of agency goals and objectives with provisions for periodic updating
- re-evaluation of whether agency resources are being used in accord with agency goals, objectives, and mission
- re-evaluation of agency policies and procedures, especially as documented in the agency's written directive system
- correction of internal deficiencies and inefficiencies before they become public problems

The accreditation standards provide norms against which agency performance can be measured and monitored over time. Accreditation provides the agency with a continuous flow of Commission distributed information about exemplary policies, procedures and projects. Accreditation also provides objective measures to justify decisions related to budget requests and personnel policies. In addition, it serves as a yardstick to measure the effectiveness of the agency's programs and services.

The services provided are defined and uniformity of service is assured. Accreditation streamlines operations, providing more consistency and more effective deployment of agency manpower.



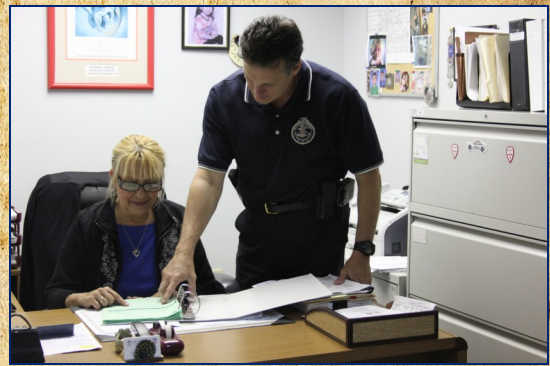
Sgt. Weissberg coordinates a mock assessment for accreditation

Support Personnel

The Administrative Assistant & Department Secretary are an integral part of our Support Personnel. They perform varied secretarial and administrative duties relative to the particular needs of the Administrative Staff. They are responsible for executing and maintaining statistical and technical reports such as; payroll, time & attendance records, invoices for payment, purchasing & requisitions, extra duty processing, personnel files, confidential memorandums and department budget records.



Catherine Motta reviews payroll with the Chief



Celia Vicente confirms requisition requests with Major Landa

The partnership that SMPD has with Florida International University allows students to earn three credit hours towards their degree. The internship program provides the opportunity to ride along with officers and work inside & outside of the police station in a variety of divisions within the police department.

In order to be accepted into the program, a background check is conducted by the Internal Affairs Sergeant due to the confidentiality of the environment. Students submit a resume, transcripts that show enrollment at FIU in the Criminal Justice Program and a copy of their Driver's License. A letter of recommendation from one of their criminal justice professors is also desirable, but not mandated. Once cleared by the Sergeant, the student is scheduled for an interview with the Chief of Police and his advisors.



L to R: Ofc. Espinoza, Det. Hernandez, Intern S. Carralero & standing is Ofc. Johnson as they work together during a DUI Checkpoint

Officers of the Month

January Ofc. C. Johnson

February Ofc. R. Gonzalez

March Ofc. J. Alvarez & Resv. Ofc. L. Hernandez

April Det. J. Vijil & Det. E. Bartra

May Ofc. R. Hernandez

June Ofc. R. Everett

October Ofc. A. Alvarez

November Det. R. Munoz & Det. C. Morejon

December Ofc. A. Rodriguez



Courteous Officers of the Month

January Ofc. L. Fata

February Ofc. P. Vesely

March Ofc. M. Lopez & Ofc. C. Morejon

May Ofc. L. Fata

June Lt. Larry Corbin

October Ofc. R. Hernandez

November Ofc. M. Kinlaw



Taking the Oath

This year a total of nine officers were sworn-in, either under a full time capacity or reserve status. As the year progressed, some of those reserve officers were reclassified as full time.



Ofc. A. Rodriguez, Ofc. L. Hernandez, Chief Martinez de Castro & Ofc. C. Cosio all pose after their Swearing-In Ceremony



Ofc. A. Alvarez



Ofc. S. Espinoza



Reserve Ofc. H. Erazo



Ofc. D. Ruiz, Ofc. G. Hodges and Reserve Ofc. S. Hernandez taking the oath during their Swearing-In Ceremony

Promotional Ceremonies

With personnel retiring, the end of 2010 and mid year 2011 also saw its share of promotions and reclassifications;



Chief Martinez de Castro promotes John Barzola to the rank of Lieutenant



Major Baixauli looks on while Lara Bukens pins her husband's badge on him. Robert Bukens was promoted to the rank of Sergeant



Major Landa congratulates Sergeant Jesus Aguiar for his reclassification assignment to Administrative Sergeant



Sergeant Michael Weissberg & Sergeant Henry Guzman pose for a photo shortly after receiving their promotions

Explorer Post #256

The South Miami Police Explorer Post is twenty-five years old, sponsored by our agency and chartered through the Learning for Life Organization. This program provides high school and college age students with an insight into a career in law enforcement. It also allows young men and women an opportunity to give positive service back to the community. Throughout the history of the program, many Explorers have become very successful leaders, inside and outside of the law enforcement community.

The Post regularly assists sworn police officers at DUI checkpoints in South Miami, Sweetwater and North Miami. They have also been trained to assist officers with citations, vehicle searches, property impounds, tow sheets and other support functions. They consistently attend and provide security for the Special Olympics at the Miami-Dade College Kendall Campus, the Boy Scouts of America's Lincoln-Marti Camporee, the South Miami Volkswagen Show, Twilight Run, MLK parade, Art Show, Fourth of July Celebration, Halloween Safe Streets, Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway and the Santa's Parade of the Elves. They also attended "Walk Like MADD" and "Operation Sticker Shock" and they were the only Post who won a MADD Award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving for their hard work and dedication in 2011.

The group was also awarded twenty-one Presidential Volunteer Service Awards for nearly 12,000 hours of community service. These hours of service credit will also aid the explorers with their future goals when applying for colleges to attend. In addition to all their hard work, Explorers also compete in Local, State and National Competitions. This year they ranked Second Place Overall at Local Competition and ranked Sixth Place Overall, out of thirty groups, in Statewide Competition.



*Pictured in the Police Interactive area
during Local Competition*



*Explorers pose with their individual trophies and their
2nd Place Overall trophy*

Explorer Post #256



During Santa's DUI Checkpoint pictured with PBA President John Rivera



Annual "Thank You for All You Do" trip to Universal Studios in Orlando, FL



Drill Competition at National Competition in Atlanta, GA



Honored with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award at the City Commission Meeting

Community Organizations

D.A.R.E. PROGRAM:

The South Miami Police Department was one of the first in Miami-Dade County to have an officer certified to teach elementary and middle school students the dangers of drugs through the **D**rug **A**buse **R**esistance **E**ducation program. Since the early 1980's, the department continues the commitment to keep our children healthy and drug free.

S.A.F.E. AND R.A.D. PROGRAMS:

For the last few years, the S.A.F.E. program, **S**elf **D**efense **A**wareness **F**amiliarization **E**xchange, which teaches women awareness and self defense, has been offered and taught by the South Miami Police Department to local women's groups. The R.A.D. program, **R**ape **A**ggression **D**efense, is also taught to women and high school aged girls, primarily in cooperation with South Miami's Junior Commission for Women.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Members of the Police Department are involved in a myriad of organizations to "give back" to the community and support positive programs. Some of these are:

Rotary

Kiwanis

Local, State & International Police Chief Organizations

Cops for Kids

Alliance for Youth

Community Relations Board

Senior Citizens Center

Citizen's Crime Watch

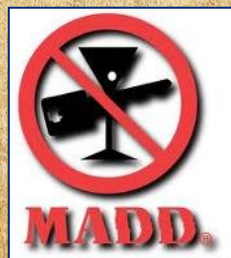
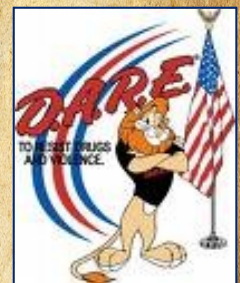
YMCA

South Miami Elks

Big Brother/Big Sister

M.A.D.D.

Informed Families



Community Involvement

For the third year in a row, The King Pins Challenge has racked up a victory in the fight to keep kids safe, healthy and drug-free. On Sunday, March 20, 2011, more than 70 elected officials, civic and business leaders battled for The King Pins Challenge trophy at Splitsville Luxury Lanes.

THE KING PINS CHALLENGE III brought the community leadership together in a fun-filled evening for family, friends and colleagues in support of the South Miami Drug-Free Coalition, a project of Informed Families/The Florida Family Partnership. For three hours, on all thirteen lanes, nearly 80 bowlers of varying skill levels helped raise more than \$20,000 to support the coalition's work in South Miami. Each year, The King Pins Challenge is co-presented by Splitsville – America's Bowling Alley and SoMiMAG, a local lifestyle and entertainment publication.

Mayor Philip Stoddard and former Mayor Rev. Anna Price served as honorary co-chairs for the event. Joining them on the lanes were Miami-Dade County Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, former Mayor and Chamber South President Mary Scott Russell, South Miami Hospital Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Kathy Sparger and City Manager Dr. Hector Mirabile.

The thirteen teams included Commissioner Gimenez's family, Chamber South; the Red Sunset Merchants Association, South Miami Hospital, First National Bank of South Miami, South Miami Police Department, South Miami Police Explorers Post #256, South Miami Senior High School and other SoMi business and community leaders. The coalition sponsored a kids lane, where the youngest bowlers tried their hand at the sport.

At the Awards Ceremony following the tournament, the South Miami Police Explorers team was awarded the "King Pins" trophy for contributing the most pin pledges. Team members were: **Kassandra Morales, Dailin Roman, Yessica Martin, Rachel Saldivar, Josue Zambrana and Jerome Blain.** Not to be outdone, their mentors on the **Police Department team took the "High Roller" honor for the best bowling score. Team members were: Major Rene Landa, Lt. Larry Corbin, Sgt. Henry Guzman, Det. Edgardo Bartra, Det. Joe Mendez and Officer Marcus Kinlaw.**

South Miami Drug-Free Coalition Director Margaret Sotham also presented the Police Explorers with a check for \$2,000. The money represents contributions raised by the team and a dollar-for-dollar match from the coalition. The Explorers use funds raised throughout the year to purchase uniforms, which cost more than \$500 per member and to participate in competitions with other posts around the state.



Margaret Sotham presents the South Miami Explorer Post #256 a check for \$2,000 for a dollar-to-dollar matched contribution



The High Rollers; Sgt. Guzman, Margaret Sotham, Det. Mendez, Det. Bartra, Ofc. Kinlaw, & Det. King. Not pictured Lt. Corbin

LEO Gala

Det. Joseph Mendez received a nomination for and was selected as a Finalist at the LEO Gala for the Crime Prevention Community Policing Award – Category 1. He was recognized for his service, devotion and incalculable amount of time, that he commits to making the South Miami Police Explorer Program one of the most coveted and robust programs within the South Florida Law Enforcement community. Det. Mendez has been the Explorer Advisor for three years and provides the structure, framework and leadership it requires to be successful. In addition to participating in local competitions, the Explorers are also credited with providing security at various local events such as; the Special Olympics, Boy Scouts of America's Lincoln Marti Camporee, various art shows, car shows, parades and races in South Miami. Under his direction, Post #256 has been awarded twenty-one Presidential Volunteer Service Awards for nearly 12,000 hours of service.



Det. J. Mendez & wife Lisa pose in front of the iconic LEO ice sculpture.



L to R: Sgt. J. Aguiar, girlfriend M. Mariena, Comm. Suprv. L. Corbin & husband Lt. L. Corbin



Major A. Baixauli with husband UMPD Ofc. George. Baixauli



L to R: ICE Asst. Dir Ray Bado, wife ICE Agent Mercy Bado, Ileana Martinez de Castro with husband Chief Orlando Martinez de Castro.

PBA Gala

Det. Richard Munoz & Det. Charles Morejon received a nomination for the PBA Law Enforcement Arthur Felton Investigative Excellence Award. Recently these detectives had become partners in trying to rid our City of illegal sales of narcotics and unrelated felonious thefts of property. They were selected as Officers of the Month for November 2011 by the SMPD Awards Committee. During the month of November, these detectives displayed the work ethic and performance which exemplifies the highest standards of the South Miami Police Department. Below are some highlights:

- Hookah Lounge surveillance was conducted due to numerous complaints being received by citizens regarding minors possessing tobacco products & drinking alcohol. The investigation led to the store manager being arrested for 18 counts of providing tobacco to minors
- A bike theft surveillance at Sunset Place was conducted and a bait bicycle was deployed leading to the arrest of an individual who was also responsible for area thefts
- Marijuana grow house investigation at an apartment complex which lead to a felony arrest along with the recovery of ninety marijuana plants
- Concluded a two month narcotics investigation, "Operation Deep Fried Turkey Special", culminating in the arrest of fourteen subjects who were identified for selling narcotics
- A month long investigation where a residence next door to an elementary school was selling illegal narcotics. The search warrant culminated with five arrests and the recovery of 120 grams of marijuana, vials of human growth hormone, 77.5 Xanax pills, 9 grams of cocaine, 3 firearms and \$4,200 in US-Currency.



Chief Martinez de Castro, Major Baixauli and husband Officer George Baixauli with UMPD



Jeannett Slesnick Gables Realtor poses with Officer George Baixauli

Fallen Heroes



Sergeant Joseph O. Kephart in the 70's was the department's Supervisor of Identification, Shift Commander and the Firearms Training and Range Officer

In memory of Fallen Officer Joseph Kephart...

Sergeant Kephart died in the line of duty 42 years ago after being hit head-on in a vehicle collision while driving home from work after his tour of duty.

Sergeant Kephart succumbed to this injuries on January 18, 1970.



In memory of Fallen Officer L. Daniel Schulz...

Officer Schulz died in the line of duty 24 years ago after being stabbed while working an off duty job.

On October 15, 1987 Officer Schulz attempted to arrest a juvenile who was part of a gang which had been causing problems at the Bakery Centre movie theater. As he was taking the subject into custody, he was stabbed four times by the other members of the gang.

Officer Schulz succumbed to his injuries on November 27, 1987.



Officer L. Daniel Schulz in the 80's while assigned to the Motor Unit

